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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

TOPIC Ohlau Airfield

614297

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

5 March 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between early August and 15 October 1953, Ohlau airfield was occupied by the Soviet Air Force. Soviet national emblems were observed on aircraft taking off and landing at the field. During air activity up to four aircraft which always were of the same type, were seen aloft at a time. The aircraft observed were probably midwing mono-planes and had single in-line engines, pointed noses, single rudder assemblies, comparatively long fuselage sections fore of the wings, and retractable landing gears. There was intensive and regular air activity in the Ohlau air space. Throughout the day, take-offs and landings were made at the field. Flying was also practiced when there was dull weather and a low cloud base. Source observed that aircraft disappeared into the clouds. Sometimes diving was practiced. Frequently, there was night flying by an estimated 3 or 4 aircraft with one searchlight being in operation. Air activity usually started at 4 a.m. and often lasted until 11 p.m. Apparently no accidents occurred. Source never observed aerobatics, air-to-air or air-to-ground firing or parachuting. ²

2. Occasionally jet aircraft flying individually or in flight formation were observed over the Ohlau-Maerzdorf airfield. The aircraft did not belong to the field. They had swept-back wings. Their nationality could not be identified. Four-engine aircraft were never observed over the field. ³

3. Ohlau appeared to be heavily occupied by Soviet troops, mainly air force and many dependents. Many trucks were seen in the town. Several buildings, apparently serving as storage depots, were observed to be guarded. Many of the officers seen wore blue air force uniforms, with propeller insignia on their epaulets. The town section between the roads from the market place to Odersteine and to Deutsch Steine was off limits to Poles. The area was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence, had some watch towers, and was guarded by many sentries who wore Soviet uniforms with blue epaulets and propeller insignias. A sizeable number of low wooden buildings which were close together, were observed within the area. The windows of the buildings were closed by shutters. A spur track connected the restricted area with the Ohlau railroad station. The slaughter house in the town was also occupied by the Soviets. ⁴

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25X1

-2-

25X1 1. [] Comment. The Ohlau (Olawa)-Maerzdorf airfield is occupied by a Soviet ground attack regiment which belongs to the ground attack division of the Fourth Air Army stationed in Poland. According to the description of the aircraft observed and sketches, which are not forwarded, the aircraft were probably Il-10s.

25X2 2. [] Comment. Practice firing by the units stationed at Ohlau is possibly conducted at another area.

25X1 3. [] Comment. The jet aircraft are apparently MiG-15s and possibly stationed at Brieg airfield. At the time of observation a Soviet fighter regiment was stationed at Brieg.

4. [] Comment. Ohlau was previously reported as being heavily occupied by Soviet troops.

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